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Practitioner's Docket No. 2002-1411.ori

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd.  
Serial No.: 09/745,896  
Filed: December 21, 2000  
For: Method For Purification Of Acrylic Acid  
Examiner: MANOHARAN, Virginia  
Group No.: 1764  
Confirmation No.: 2637

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT--Introduction

This paper, as part of an RCE, is being filed in response to the Office Action of October 5, 2004.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

The listing of claims, and any amendments thereto, begins on page 3 of this paper.

The Remarks portion begins on page 8 of this paper.

(17979.DOC)

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 1, 2005 to 1-703-872-9310 by applicant's attorney, Robert J. Jacobson.

  
Robert J. Jacobson

(Preliminary Amendment--page 1 of 18)